

Grand-White Lakes Landbridge Protection (ME-19)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2001 **Cost:** \$9.6 million
Project Area: 1,530 acres **Status:** Construction
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 213 acres
Project Type: Shoreline Protection

Location

The project is located on the southeastern shore of Grand Lake just north of the Old Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and extends eastward to include Collicon Lake in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

Erosion of the southeastern shoreline of Grand Lake and the western shoreline of Collicon Lake has removed the lake rims and is endangering the narrow landbridge between the two lakes. Collicon Lake is in imminent danger of breaching into Grand Lake, endangering the entire Grand-White Lakes Landbridge. The size of Grand Lake could increase by over 4,800 acres, and the width of the landbridge could be reduced by 2 miles. Shoreline erosion would accelerate in the remaining marshes of the landbridge.

Restoration Strategy

One objective of the project includes stabilizing the shoreline by installing limestone rock along the southeastern shore of Grand Lake beginning from 1,000 feet north of the Old Intracoastal Waterway to the northern shoreline of Round Lake. The rock will be placed about 100 feet lakeward from shore in shallow water 1 to 2 feet deep.

Another project objective involves the building of two rows of earthen terraces along the northern and western shores of Collicon Lake and installing 4,000 feet of plantings on the southern shoreline of Round Lake. The terraces will be vegetated with gallon containers of seashore paspalum (*Paspalum vaginatum*) and giant cutgrass (*Zizaniopsis miliacea*).



Aerial view of the landbridge separating Grand Lake and Collicon Lake.

Progress to Date

Engineering and design began with a project implementation orientation interagency meeting held on February 14, 2001. The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved construction funding in August 2002. Project construction began in July 2003 and will be completed in October 2004.

This project is on Priority Project List 10.

For more project information, please contact:







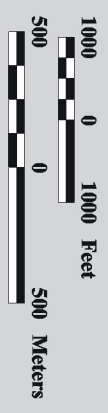
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Lafayette, LA
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Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
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-  Vegetative Plantings
-  Shoreline Protection
-  Terraces
-  Project Boundary



Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

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